



# Accumulation of Organic Sunscreen Chemicals in Sharks and Teleost Fishes

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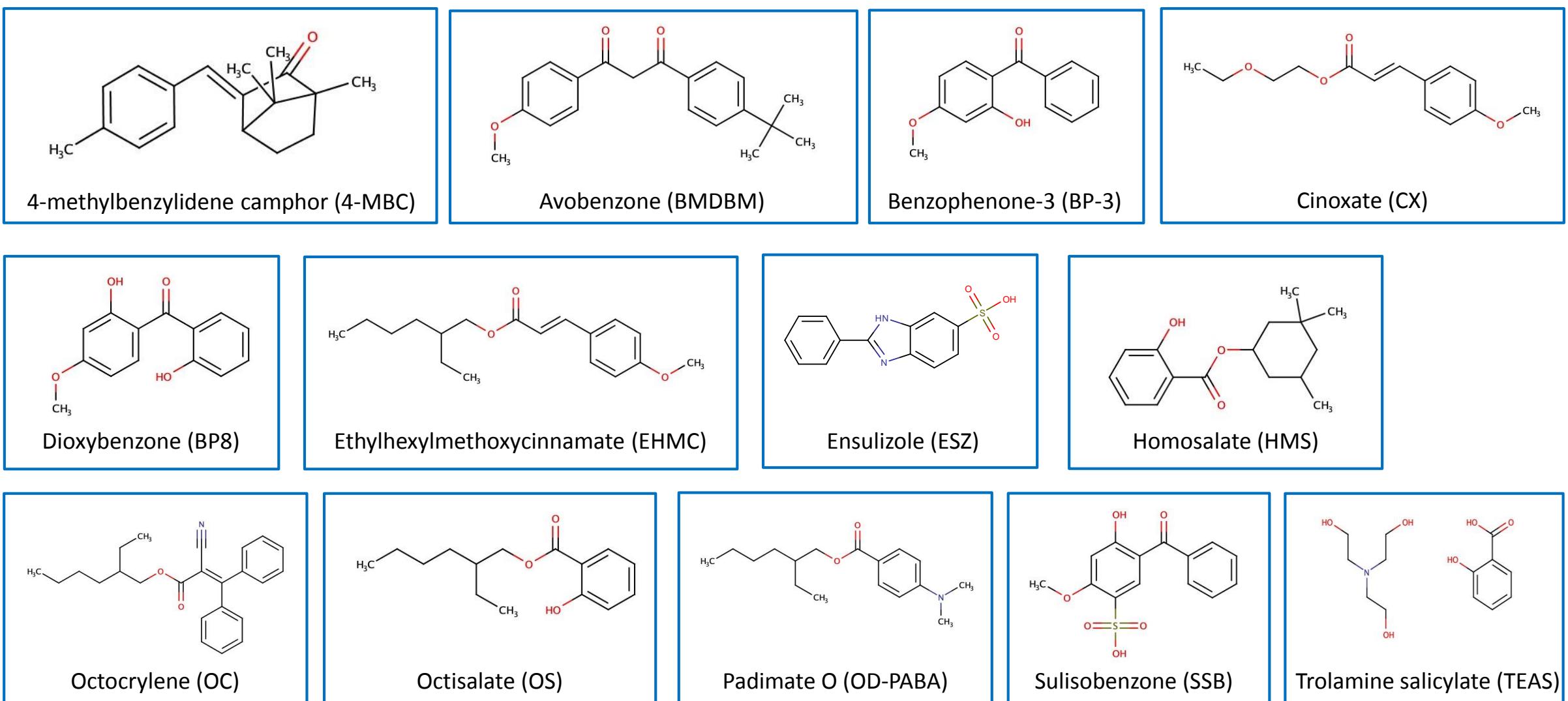
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## Conclusions

- 1<sup>st</sup> analysis of sunscreen chemicals (UV-filters) in wild populations of Florida fishes;
- 7 UV-filters were detected in Bonnethead Shark muscle tissue from the Indian River Lagoon (IRL);
- 4-methylbenzylidene-camphor (4MBC) was present at high concentrations in Bonnetheads;
- 6 UV-filters were detected in IRL Red Drum tissue; and,
- Comparatively higher variation in UV filter distribution and concentrations among Red Drum individuals.



## Background

- UV-filters have been widely used in sunscreens, pharmaceuticals, food packaging, and textiles;
- UV-filters are likely discharged into the IRL via wastewater effluent and recreational activity; and,
- Some UV-filters are endocrine-disrupting chemicals and can be toxic to corals, fish, and other aquatic organisms.

## Objectives

- Build, refine, and optimize analytical techniques to measure a wide suite of UV-filters in estuarine fish muscle tissue; and,
- Analyze UV-filter concentrations in a wide array of fish species from the IRL and explore trophic level correlations.

## Materials and Methods

- All fish samples were collected from the IRL by the FWC-FWRI's Fisheries-Independent Monitoring Program using 183-m haul seines;
- White dorsal muscle was collected using clean techniques;
- The tissue samples were shipped to UMBC on ice.

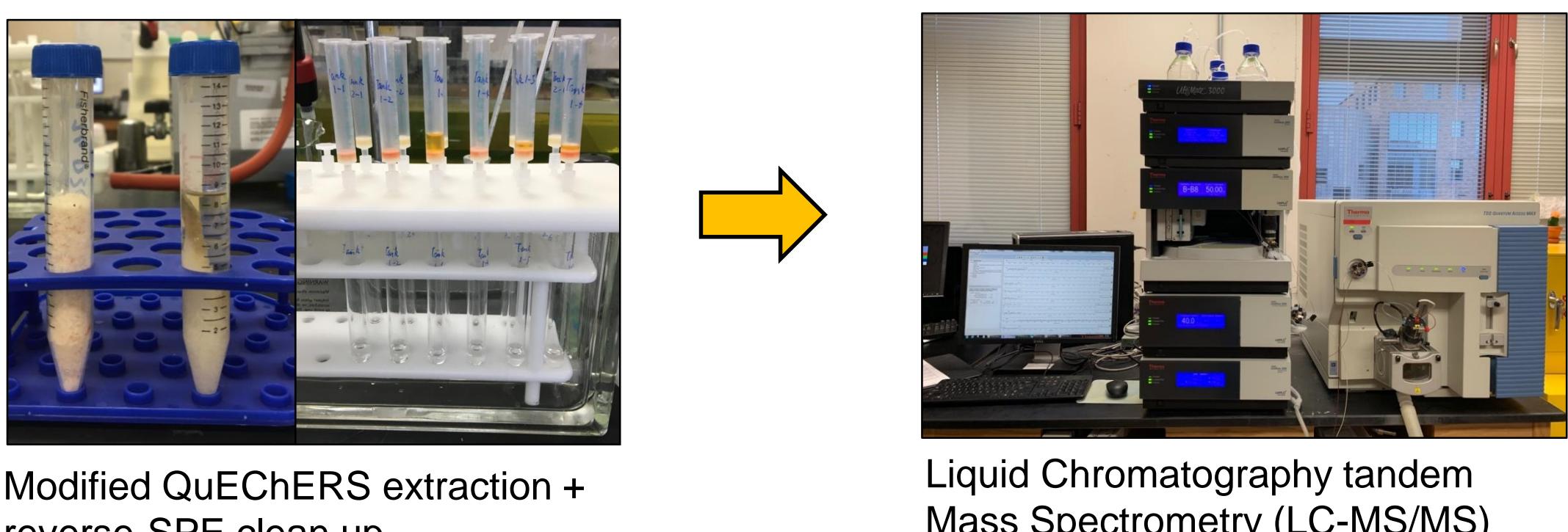


Bonnethead Shark, *Sphyrna tiburo*, collected from the IRL, FL



Red Drum, *Sciaenops ocellatus*, collected from the IRL, FL

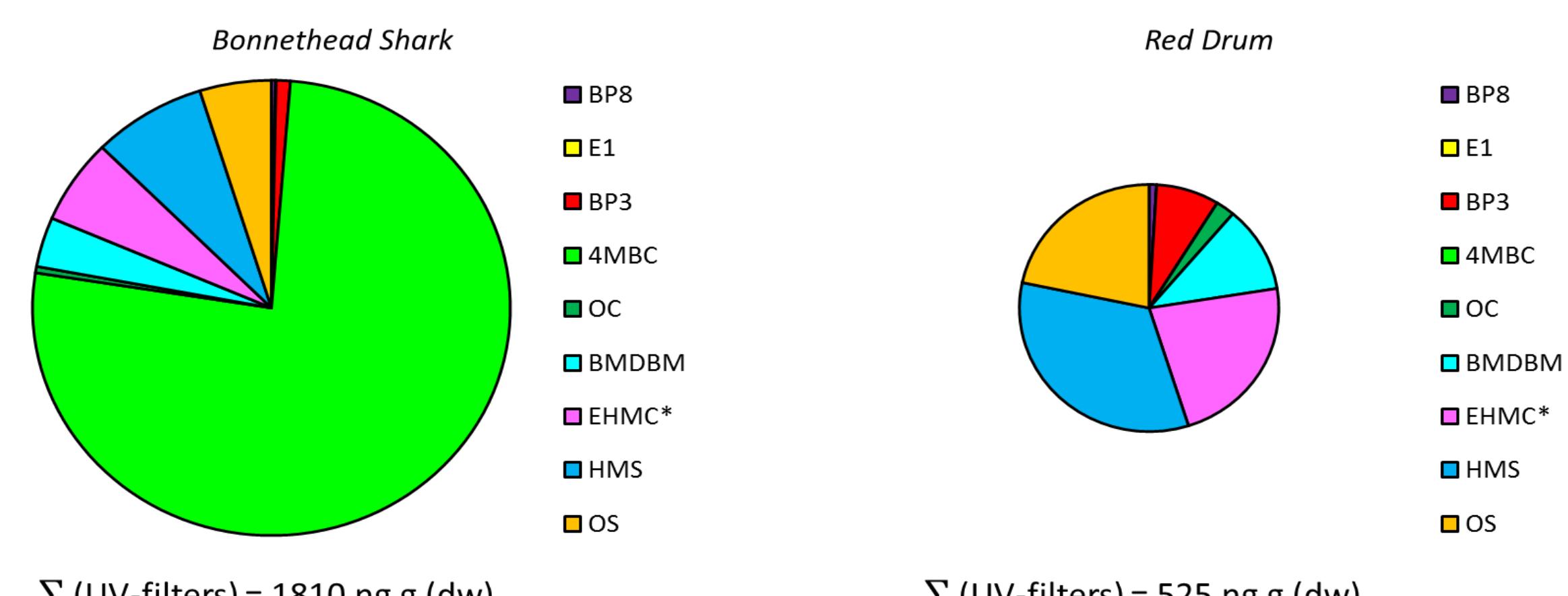
- In total, 13 UV-filters were investigated in this study;
- Tissue samples were lyophilized and kept in -20 °C;
- Target analytes were extracted with a modified QuEChERS technique and cleaned by a novel reverse-SPE protocol;
- The concentration was determined by LC-MS/MS with mass-labeled surrogates and internal standards; and,
- Full details available in He et al., 2017, *J. Chromatogr. A*



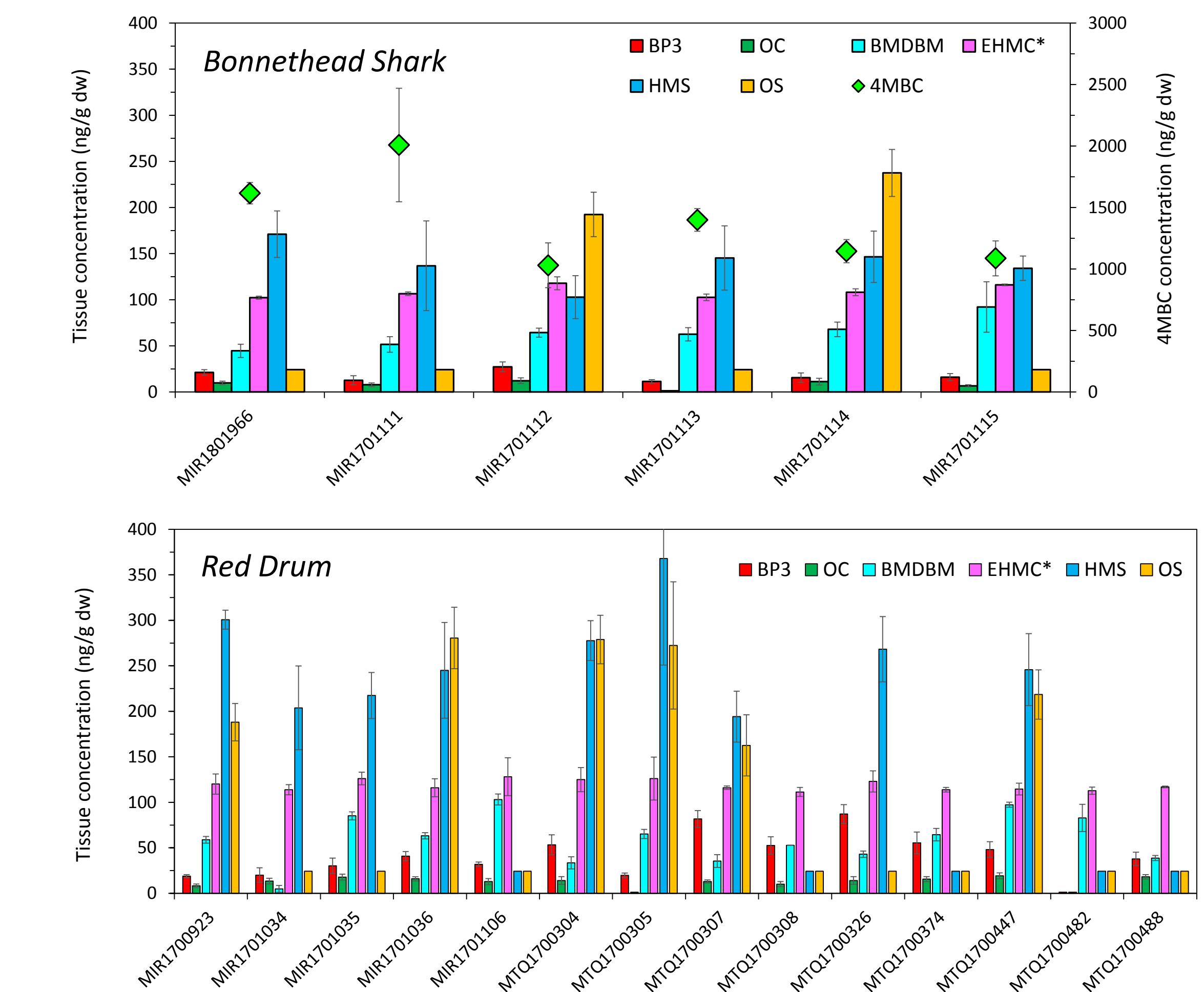
Modified QuEChERS extraction + reverse-SPE clean up

Liquid Chromatography tandem Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS/MS)

## Key Findings



- 4MBC was present at high concentrations in Bonnetheads;
- In general, UV-filter concentrations in Red Drum tissue samples varied more than those in Bonnethead tissue, especially for BP3, BMDBM, and OS; and,
- Feeding ecology and trophic position likely play key roles in this variation.



Distribution and concentrations of UV filters in muscle from Bonnetheads (n=6, 608-913 mm PCL) and Red Drum (n=14, 322-542 mm SL). EHMC\* is likely the metabolite of EHMC, but confirmation is needed.

- Bonnetheads have a comparatively restricted prey base (with blue crabs representing a high % of diet), where Red Drum have a more diverse diet and occupy a slightly lower trophic level within the IRL food web; and,
- In general, more hydrophobic UV-filters (e.g., HMS and BMDBM) exhibited higher concentrations in IRL fishes.

## Future Research Directions

- Monitor UV-filters in water samples and identify potential sources;
- Expand sampling and analyses of UV-filters to other fish species representing all trophic levels within the IRL to further understand UV filter bioaccumulation within the ecosystem; and,
- Measure UV-filters in different fish organs to inform potential lethal and sub-lethal toxicity mechanisms

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